

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The question is the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 70. Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Smith, we're back to the bill as amended.

SENATOR SMITH: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, this bill would simply require that all retail establishments post a sign, in a conspicuous place, which simply reads, warning, drinking alcoholic beverages during pregnancy can cause birth defects. And, as I've said, the sign will be distributed, printed, published and distributed by the Liquor Commission. All they have to do is just post the sign. There are really two parts to this bill, though. The other part that hasn't had any coverage at all is a part that would allow the Liquor Commission to provide sets of the commission's rules and regulations and copies of the Nebraska Liquor Commission's Control Act to persons regulated by the act to them. Then they are also allowed to charge a reasonable fee for the material to cover printing and postage and a cash fund is established in order for them to be able to do this. This was originally a part of LB 911. As you know, 911 was struck down, and we have another bill that is coming in the committee which will deal with that issue. But this was added to this bill in order for them to allow...be allowed to do this much. The bill itself is needed. This is not a funny issue, this is a serious issue. And I appreciate the support that I've had from folks on the floor this morning. For anyone to stand and talk about the fact that this is not going to do anything, how do we know what it will do? If it saves one life from being doomed to mental retardation, it should be well worth it. If we care about life in here at all, I can't understand how anyone on this floor could not vote for this piece of legislation on the premise that it's not going to do anything. We don't know what it can do. We don't know how many lives will be changed because of the fact that some friend, or some family member, if not the pregnant woman herself, in a bar, maybe before a child is even...comes into the mind of a potential parent, reads the sign and remembers that statement who was not educated to the concern that there is for the effects of alcohol on the fetus before